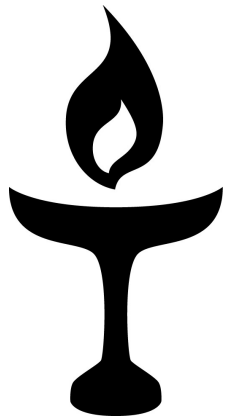


# MU NOW

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THE MAGAZINE OF  
THE MIDLAND UNITARIAN  
ASSOCIATION

ISSUE 75

SEPTEMBER 2025

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[www.midland-unitarian-association.org.uk](http://www.midland-unitarian-association.org.uk)

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**AIMS OF THE MUA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- Support congregations
- Make things happen by providing leadership and initiating projects
- Find resourceful solutions
- Connect Unitarians in the Midlands

## From the Editor

Welcome to the September 2025 issue of *MU Now*. The theme of 'Sustainability' has resulted in some very thoughtful pieces of writing, from our President, David Taylor, as well as from Peter Godfrey, Dorothy Haughton and me.

I am most grateful to all our contributors, particularly Rev Ant Howe, for permission to share his tribute to Rev Keith Hill, who died recently. Without your submissions, *MU Now* would not exist. So put your brains and hearts to work and send me something for the January issue. Please...

### Submissions to *MU Now*

We are particularly looking for stories on local activities, or with a local interest, in addition to articles on the theme.

The theme for the next issue, due out in January 2026, is, "Celebration and Joy". It will be coming out in the depths of Winter, so I think we would all enjoy some uplifting pieces.

The deadline for submissions is Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

Please send your contributions to me at [revsuewoolley@gmail.com](mailto:revsuewoolley@gmail.com) or to 5, Martins Road, Piddington, Northampton NN7 2DN.

THANK YOU!

*Sue Woolley*

## President's Piece



"How can we speak about sustainability without speaking about the Sustainer?" from *Spiritual Ecology: The Cry of the Earth* by Llewellyn Vaughan-Lee, Sufi mystic.

The theme of this issue of *MU Now* is sustainability. The ability to sustain. But sustain what? Sustain or planet? Yes. Sustain our congregations? Yes.

But to do these things, firstly we must surely sustain ourselves?

I have recently been recovering from an operation, which means I've been forced into a state I find unnatural – enforced rest! This means feet up and trying to resist the easy temptation of daytime TV and box sets! By the side of me I have a small pile of books – some old favourites and some new acquisitions. A chance to re-read old favourites, one of which is *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* by Robert M. Pirsing. One statement of his jumped out at me the other day: "The place to improve the world is first in one's own heart and head and hands, and then work outward from there."

It is through a deep connection with the world around us that we can learn to better connect with each other.

This link between the sustainability of the soul and the Earth, is beautifully expressed by Hildegard von Bingen. She was a twelfth century German Benedictine abbess and polymath active as a writer, composer, philosopher, mystic and visionary. She

wrote: “The soul is the greening life force of the flesh, for the body grows and prospers through her, just as the earth becomes fruitful when it is moistened. The soul humidifies the body so it does not dry out, just like the rain which soaks into the earth.”

How we find ways to sustain ourselves spiritually will differ with each of us. I suspect that most of us would put the love of family and friends at the top of our list. Likewise, if we are able to get out and about, then places of natural beauty cannot fail to have a positive effect upon us.

In February this year, Herefordshire Council made a positive gesture to honouring sustainability at a local level by participating in a ceremonial action at its headquarters to honour the River Wye.

The action, which took place on Friday 9th February, was initiated by activists from the Save the Wye campaign ([www.savethewye.org](http://www.savethewye.org)). They included Kim Kaos, artist, puppeteer and environmental stewardship advocate. He took the role of the River Goddess - a towering puppet embodying the spirit and vitality of the River Wye.

This impressive event was also supported by councillors, who shared poems in dedication to the river. It acted as a reminder of both the interconnectedness of humanity and the natural world, and the urgent need to protect and preserve our precious waterways.

In a similar vein, last year I was able to bring together a group of old friends for a picnic at one of my favourite sacred places – Mitchell’s Fold stone circle in the Welsh Marches. It was a place we had all visited as a group on many occasions over twenty years ago.

An invigorating walk from the carpark on a sunny Sunday morning chatting and laughing with friends, finding a place to shelter from the wind and take in the stunning views over into Wales was a fantastic way to relax and recharge the batteries. A way for each of us to sustain ourselves and our friendships.

I’m sure we all have our own ‘special place’ that sustains us?

**David Taylor**

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## **District Minister: September Update**

Hello again. Here’s a summary of what I’ve been doing, around the Midland Unitarian Association.

**Leading worship around the Midland Unitarian Association:**  
Since March 2020, I have been producing an online service for the District each week, which has been posted around by e-mail and also on the MUA website and am continuing to do so. It is always a joy to lead worship in person, to see all your faces and catch up with your news.

I am a fully qualified **spiritual director**. I offer direction sessions, on a one-to-one basis. Please contact me if you are interested.

**And if you are feeling alone and would like to hear another human voice, please feel free to give me a call on 01604 870746 or 0785 325 3880...**

**Sue Woolley, District Minister, Midland Unitarian Association**

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## Rituals by Peter Hewis

On reading Dorothy Haughton's article on rituals, in the May issue of *MU Now*, it reminded me how narrow minded a tiny minority of Unitarians can be. (Or have been in the past!)

**Candles.** In the first year of my ministry at Mansford Street Church in Bethnal Green I inaugurated a Christmas candlelight service. The then secretary came to me at the end and said, "We don't like that Catholic stuff here, lighting all those candles." My reply was that cave dwellers, Pagans, Jews at Hanukkah, and Hindus at Diwali have celebrated festivals with candles long before the Catholic Church even began. He then responded, "Oh, I'm sorry, that's okay then."! During my second, long ministry at Hinckley the most popular service of the year was the Candlelight Carol Service, where we ended with a full chapel holding lighted tapers and me saying the words of Max Kapp,

*"Let us stand together and keep a silence among us for a moment...let us together lift our candles (tapers) on high as we dedicate ourselves anew to be bearers of the Sacred Flame."*

**Communion.** When I arrived in Oxford, the congregation still celebrated communion three times a year, on Remembrance Sunday, at Easter and at Christmas. At the front of the Chapel, we have a painting of *The Last Supper*, painted by a Miss Nevinson and I always referred our communion to the painting, **a sharing of bread and wine amongst friends**. I share the thoughts of my friend, Peter Godfrey, that the orthodox idea of communion smacks of cannibalism, bread representing the body and wine representing the blood. One Remembrance Sunday we had returned from a holiday in France and brought some bread and wine back with us. At that communion I mentioned that as we shared that bread and wine, we should remember all those people,

military and civilian, who had lost their lives in wars and could no longer share a meal.

**Graces before a meal.** In Hinckley a friend rang our doorbell and asked for help with a strange request. He was a Freemason and had been asked to say grace before one of their lodge meals, but all he could remember was his old school grace and he wanted something different. I asked him to give me some time, and I would provide a few. By the next day I had found and written about a dozen graces, and he gave me a donation for the Chapel! Although I knew little about Masonic ideas, I did know that the thought of a Temple or Lodge meant something to them and that in modern times they encourage members to follow their own faith and to help others, so here's a few that I wrote for him.

May we give mutual help to each other on this day,  
and always may we have the vision of Moses, the wisdom  
of Solomon,  
the patience of Job,  
and follow the example of Jesus.

As members of this fraternity may we feel a kinship with  
our family the wide world o'er.

Like the skilled builders of old,  
may we build a sacred temple from our daily lives –  
and may we begin with thanksgiving for the food before  
us.

As we join in prayer and meditation may our prayer be a  
simple one –  
that all people everywhere will have food to eat,  
water to drink and friends to meet.

## **Tribute to Rev Keith Hill by Ant Howe**

**Rev Keith Hill was minister at Kingswood for forty years. His funeral was on 22<sup>nd</sup> August, and the chapel was packed, not only with family members, ministerial friends, and people from the congregation, but also with people from the village. All of whom had experienced the pastoral love Keith spread around the village during his forty-year ministry.**

**The service was sensitively led by Rev Ant Howe, formerly minister at Kingswood, who shared the words below as his personal tribute to Keith:**

I remember the first time I met Keith at a conference. I was just starting my Ministry training at the time and he was very encouraging to me. I didn't know then that I would be the one to follow his ministry here at Kingswood.

Keith was certainly a character. He could be incredibly caring and pastoral, very funny with his wry sense of humour, though also had a short fuse and didn't suffer fools gladly!

I only ever heard him lead a few Services – but I loved to hear him read with his beautiful Welsh accent. He had a gift for choosing the right thing to say or a reading that just fitted the occasion.

Although his ministry style was liberal Christian, he loved the writings of Kahlil Gibran and Rabindranath Tagore. Once, over a glass of something, I asked him how strongly he believed in God, to which he replied “I've never had quite enough commitment to be an atheist!”.

Keith served Kingswood as Minister for 40 years and for a good proportion of that time held a full time job as a social worker as well. Although Keith was the Minister, his wife Jenny's role cannot be understated. She worked alongside Keith to keep Kingswood a vibrant and caring place. I know that they were devoted to each other - - although it was a brave person who got between them when a row was going on!

Living here on-site meant that they were never really 'off duty' and I know that they valued the time that they got to spend at their caravan in Pembrokeshire, although you got into a car with Keith at your peril. His driving and ability to write-off cars was legendary!

When the Ministry position here was advertised I phoned Keith to ask him whether I should apply. His advice? “Well if you don't apply, you won't get it!”. He was a mentor to me during my early years of ministry. His advice was usually spot on. He taught me the value of holding back sometimes doing nothing when presented with a difficult issue.

When I first came to Kingswood and used to smoke cigarettes, Keith would sneak one off me and tell me not to tell Jenny he'd been smoking – although I'm sure she knew!

Keith had many gifts. One was his ability to show wonderful pastoral care to people.... And another gift he had was his ability to attack a buffet at great speed, eat his fill, and then vanish from the occasion as if by magic!

He always spoke proudly to me of his children Bridget and Tim and his grandchildren – and he even told me once how in awe he was of Jenny's ability to get things done.

I always knew that I couldn't do ministry the way Keith did. I had to do it my way. I always knew that I wouldn't serve 40 years in one place. But I do feel blessed to have followed Keith at Kingswood.

From 1966 to 2006 he faithfully ministered here at Kingswood Meeting House – for some of that time also ministering to our churches in Birmingham, and before that in Liverpool.

The scripture tells us: “God hath shown thee, O man, what is good: and what doth the Lord require of thee but to do justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?”

Keith did that. And now he deserves his rest.

“Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.”

~~~~~

### **Four Minute Meditation by Alison Patrick**

Me, breathing, Hum of  
radiators. A distant  
train over the frost.

Tiny ticks of sound.  
Pigeons coo from another  
land. The hum of time.

In four minutes I  
can clean the floor of a fridge  
or write a poem.

Quiet. Not silent.  
A dog barks. Four times. Twice. A  
forgotten clock ticks.

Sounds won't abstract. Van  
turns corner. Sparrows. Builders.  
Man in street. Magpie.

An escalating  
whirr cut through by sparrow chirps.  
My laptop warms up.

Sounds come and go. Life.  
And traffic. Crescendo and  
diminuendo.

~~~~~

### **Book Review by Peter Godfrey**

**The Greatest Story Ever Told:** An Eyewitness Account by Bear Grylls. Hodder and Stoughton, 2025. £14.95.

The mini-cover on this book has a quotation from Dr. Billy Graham: ‘There is more evidence that this story is true, than there is that Julius Caesar ever even lived.’ Brief research quickly shows that this is not true. It is an inauspicious plug for Bear Grylls novel-style telling of the story of Jesus through the eyes of four witnesses.

There are many challenges for the person writing a book about Jesus based on the Gospels. In particular the writer has to choose which of the two or more Jesuses to write about. Is it the Jesus of the first three Gospels (the ‘synoptics’) or the Gospel of John? The Jesus who was humble, like his teaching and spoke often in

parables, or the 'I am' cosmic Jesus with only one parable and long discourses? There is, too, a difference of emphasis between the first three Gospels. Mark has a suffering Jesus and emphasises secrecy and abandonment, Matthew presents a teaching Jesus, like a new Moses, Luke emphasises justice, inclusion and the Spirit in Jesus's teaching. The Gospels are not histories. They were written to help to make Jesus appeal to different groups of readers.

Grylls opts for the Jesus of the first three Gospels but he does from time to time use brief quotations from John. Another challenge is how to deal with the differences between the Gospels. For example, there are two completely difference stories about the birth of Jesus – Matthew's and Luke's. Mark has no nativity story and John has a pre-existing 'Word' who 'became flesh'. Grylls gets round this by having the stable and shepherd story (Luke's) at the beginning of Jesus's life and the wise men coming to a house story (Matthew 2v11) as happening two years later.

The flogging and crucifixion of Jesus are amplified by Grylls with even more details of what these horrors meant than given by the Gospel writers. Two Gospels, Mark and Matthew have Jesus's last words as 'My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me'. Luke has 'Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit'. John has 'It is finished'. Grylls has all three.....

Grylls, like the Gospel writers, places full blame for the death of Jesus on the Jews. I think a strong case can be made for Pilate believing that Jesus was claiming to be king of the Jews, even if Jesus wasn't doing so. John records how some people were trying to make him king [John 6v15], in the triumphal entry to Jerusalem the crowd is said to have cried 'Blessed is the king of Israel' [John 12v13 and similar in the synoptic Gospels], and the inscription on the cross read 'King of the Jews'. I have always

wondered what Pilate must have made of Jesus speaking to crowds of 5000 [all four Gospels] and 4000 [Matthew and Mark]. Why did the Gospel writers place such heavy blame on the Jews? The Gospels were written while the Romans still ruled, it would not have helped the followers of Jesus to have blamed Rome.

For Jesus's words Grylls uses modern translations such as *The Message*, the *New International Bible* and the *Easy-to-Read* version. This does make for easy reading. In view of this it is rather surprising that Grylls uses ancient names for people and places. For example Jerusalem is Yerushalayim, Bethlehem is Beit Lechem, and so on. Jesus is Yeshua and Grylls makes much of this name meaning 'He who saves'. This is actually a very common name indeed and is the same as 'Joshua' which occurs often in the books of the Bible.

Something I was glad to read in Grylls' book is the frequent reference to Jesus as laughing. This is not explicitly biblical but Jesus could hardly have been so popular if he had not laughed with people. It has been well said that we all make Jesus in our own image. Here Grylls is doing so, just as I am in my comments.

In this connection I found the laughing Jesus impossible to fit in with the miracles. The laughing Jesus is so natural. The miracles, by contrast, stand out as so unnatural. Can we really believe that Jesus walked on water, turned a hundred and twenty gallons of water, six hundred bottles, into wine on the spot and bodily rose up into heaven? It is as if to present their case the Gospel writers had to make Jesus at least on the level of Moses and Elijah. Both Moses (by tradition but biblically he was buried) and Elijah had risen to heaven (Elijah in a whirlwind) so Jesus had to as well. In some accounts Jesus wanted his miracles to be kept quiet (Mk. 1v43, 5v43, 7v36, Mt. 9v30). Matthew (12v39) even has Jesus saying 'An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign.'

Note how I am picking the quotes that fit my idea of Jesus – someone who put faith and deeds before miracles. Grylls does the same with his evangelical approach – picking what fits his idea of Jesus.

No one, scholar or otherwise, knows exactly what happened. So you too can make up your own mind.

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## District Round-Up

### Warwick Unitarians by David Healey, photos too.

It has been a busy year at Warwick Unitarians which has recently included a summer service and BBQ where over 30 people including members, and their families & friends. The service focused on spiritual community and was led by Chair of Warwick Unitarians, David Healey, and was followed by lots of delicious food in the gardens of the Chapel.



Warwick Unitarians have sadly lost two much valued and long serving members this year: Cherry Dodd, who was a core member of the Chapel and Treasurer for over 40 years, as well as Stuart Cook. Stuart had been a stalwart of the Chapel for very many years; in particular he took responsibility for the fabric of the buildings in the past.

Whilst the congregation has been saddened by these losses, there has also been much to celebrate this year and exciting plans for the months and years ahead. The congregation has welcomed five new members since last summer and became a CIO in May. The congregation have also agreed Vision & Mission statements and have developed some ambitious and exciting plans for the future which include five big goals:

1. To be well led
2. To be well known
3. To grow
4. To serve
5. To be sustainable

They look forward to share more about some exciting plans to their worship programme in the coming months.



## Sustainability

### Summer by Dorothy Haughton

In the hedgerows golden buttercups and purple rosebay  
away above stately ferns with airy fronds.  
Above, from out the hedge the briar  
raises rosy petals to the sun.  
And here's a dandy lion, too late my dear.  
Poor wet-the-bed your time is spring.  
And what have we here?  
Well packets, fag and crisps,  
and bottles, Coke and Lucozade,  
cans from Monster and Red Bull.  
We must not forget the cups from Costa and from Greggs.  
Look, feed bags from the farmer  
And a sheep lick box,  
plastic netting and black plastic.  
The RSPCA tells us plastic strangles animals  
and metal cuts.  
Animals squeeze into cans and can't get out.  
Not even the fag end, so easily discarded, is safe.  
But hey, what's a bird or mouse or weasel less  
Compared to our clean car?  
Open the window, throw man throw.

I stop my car in little lanes around my home and pick up litter.  
I've a special bag behind the driver's seat.  
People stop, ask worriedly, 'Are you all right?'"  
'Just picking litter,' I reply.  
'That's so good of you.'  
And off they drive.  
But do they stop around the corner  
for a Pringles can?

No, open the window, throw and go.  
That's our motto.  
Cymru hardd. Taflu a mynd.



image: Pexels

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### Sustainability by Peter Godfrey

Sustainability – and our editor left us to treat the subject ‘any way you like’! My first thoughts went to nature – flora and fauna – keeping alive, sustaining, beautiful things that might otherwise die.

Like Aloe Vera? About sixteen years ago someone gave me an Aloe Vera plant. If you have a burn breaking off a bit of the plant and rubbing the juice on the burn will work wonders. As any reader who has ever had an Aloe Vera plant will understand, in three or four years I had thirty or so plants in the kitchen, utility room and conservatory. Each plant grows baby ones (there must be a proper name for them, but you know what I mean).

For various reasons most of them have died off, mainly making room for other plants, geraniums in particular. When I started

thinking about our subject there was only one left, a largish one on the kitchen windowsill above the sink – i.e. very close to water. It has died! Why? Well now people are telling me that it is possible to over water. My kitchen window gets the full morning sun for several hours. Surely the plants on the windowsill need lots of water, especially during our heat waves, and the tap is so very close.....



image: Flickr

Not a good sign of ability to sustain. In my defence my geraniums survived all the winter in the conservatory, and so did my begonias wrapped in paper in the garage and they are all now a picture in the garden. Was it because I had not over watered them? Well, I hadn't but this was not really a credit to me. The conservatory is several yards from the kitchen and through a heavy sliding door. Too much trouble to water the twenty or so geraniums very often.

So sustainability needs finding the right balance, showing some care and a bit of work.

In old age I am also reminded of the fact that not everything is sustainable. Not long ago I asked a nurse who was giving me a regular blood test why my walking was so bad. The nurse replied 'Well you aren't twenty-five any more!' I used to play tennis, then golf and then bowls (old men's marbles). Alas, none of this could be sustained. Time for tears? Certainly not. I enjoyed them all and have lots of happy memories (one of life's great gifts) and it is a pleasure to watch these and other activities live or on TV. Also, I am fortunate enough to be able to maintain a sub or two to help clubs were I played to be sustained.

So – sustaining things needs our continued support in every way possible.

[PS – I could write more but I have some watering to do]

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### Setting Our Priorities by Sue Woolley

The 20th century philosopher and author, Albert Camus, once wrote something like, "The greatest saving that can be made in the world of thinking is to accept the incomprehensibility of the world and to take care of people."

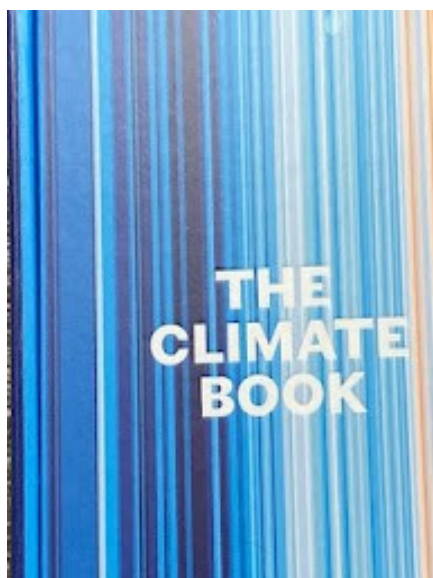
Which sounds like a tempting philosophy on one level. In that I agree it is better to spend our time taking care of the people in our world, rather than navel-gazing in a fruitless attempt to understand the incomprehensible.

Yet on another level, don't we have a duty of care to the wider world too? Shouldn't we be doing what we can to try to

understand how we might save the planet from climate change, save the innumerable species of animals, insects, plants and other living beings from imminent extinction? It is not just people who matter. And, don't we also have a duty to try to understand *how* the world works (or perhaps, more accurately fails to work, at least on a human level), in the context of the great interdependence of all life? It's a trickier question than it first sounds.

Because if we don't bother trying to understand how our actions *as part of the world* impact that same world, how can we minimise our negative impacts and maximise our positive ones? Then, once we do begin to understand that, to put it into practice.

Which is why I recently bought *The Climate Book*, published by Allen Lane in 2022, a 400+ page large format hardback, in which climate justice activist Greta Thunberg, has brought together all the latest thinking about the climate crisis into one place.



In her introduction, she writes, "In 2021, I invited a great number of leading scientists and experts, and activists, authors and storytellers to contribute... This book... covers everything from melting ice shelves to economics, from fast fashion to the loss of species, from pandemics to vanishing islands, from deforestation to the loss of fertile soils, from water shortages to Indigenous sovereignty, from future food production to carbon budgets - and it lays bare the actions of those responsible and the failures of those who should have already shared this information with the citizens of the world."

It is an incredibly well-written but sobering read. I am working my way through it with increasing horror for the mess we are making of our blue-green planet. It is daunting, and tempting to wonder how the actions of any one individual could make a positive difference in the face of the complex problems facing the planet. But that is copping out. At the very end, she includes four short sections, with the following titles:

- What needs to be done
- What we can do together as a society
- What you can do as an individual
- Some of us can do more than others (including politicians, media and TV producers, journalist, and celebrities and influencers)

So yes, I agree with Camus that we need to care for people. But we also need to understand how the actions of people impact the wider world, so that we can do our best to save it, and encourage others to do the same. Because, it is nearly too late... If not already too late, to make a difference, and save our planet.

## MUA Congregations: Times of Services

This list shows when our Unitarian congregations in the Midlands meet for worship. But please contact the congregation before travelling, in case they are no longer accurate.

### Every Sunday:

|                         |                              |                    |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Birmingham              | Unitarian New Meeting Church | 11 am              |
| Cheltenham & Gloucester | Bayshill Unitarian Church    | 11 am              |
| Evesham                 | Oat Street Chapel            | 11 am <sup>1</sup> |
| Kingswood               | Meeting House                | 11 am              |
| Shrewsbury              | Unitarian Church             | 11 am              |
| Warwick                 | High Street Chapel           | 4.30 pm            |

### First Sunday of the Month:

|                   |                         |       |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| Northampton       | Unitarian Meeting House | 11 am |
| Stroud Fellowship | The Exchange, Stroud    | 3 pm  |

### Second Sunday of the Month:

|             |                                   |                      |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Coventry    | Gt Meeting House Unitarian Church | 11 am                |
| Cradley     | Park Lane Unitarian Chapel        | 6.30 pm <sup>2</sup> |
| Stourbridge | Presbyterian (Unitarian) Chapel   | 11 am <sup>3</sup>   |

### Third Sunday of the Month:

|             |                         |       |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------|
| Northampton | Unitarian Meeting House | 11 am |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------|

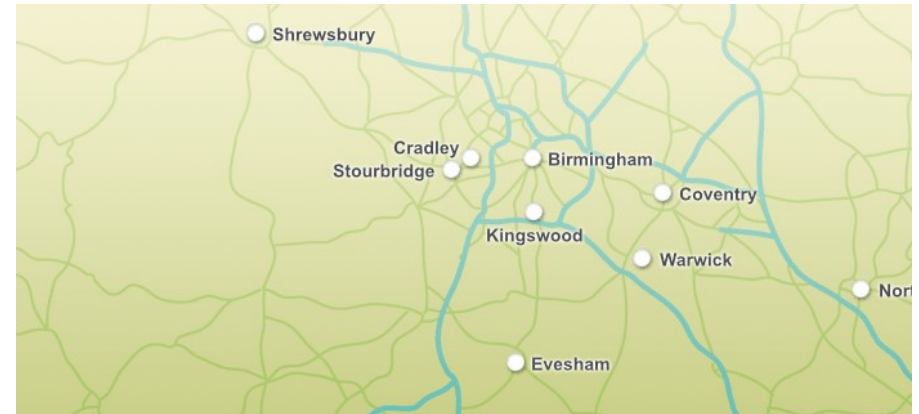
### Fourth Sunday of the Month:

|             |                                   |       |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Coventry    | Gt Meeting House Unitarian Church | 11 am |
| Stourbridge | Presbyterian (Unitarian) Chapel   | 11 am |

<sup>1</sup> No service on 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays <sup>2</sup>currently in abeyance

## MUA Congregations: Contact Details

| Name                    | Contact          | Details                                           |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Birmingham              |                  | 0121 455 8818<br>info@birminghamnewmeeting.org.uk |
| Cheltenham & Gloucester | Sandy Man        | ManS.CheltUnitarians@gmail.com                    |
| Coventry                | Francesca Rogers | info@coventryunitarians.org.uk                    |
| Cradley                 | Sheila Powell    | perconicous24@yahoo.co.uk<br>01384 480784         |
| Evesham                 | Jane Couper      | 01386-839458<br>janecouper@outlook.com            |
| Kingswood               | Maria Govier     | 07816-159199<br>maria.heath@icloud.com            |
| Northampton             | Sue Woolley      | 07853 253880<br>revsuewoolley@gmail.com           |
| Shrewsbury              | Jenni Duffell    | 07487 531 913<br>shrewsburyunitarians@gmail.com   |
| Stourbridge             | David Mearman    | 01384 376478<br>davidmearman@hotmail.com          |
| Stroud                  | Pam Jenkinson    | 07776 276276<br>pam.jenkinson58@gmail.com         |
| Warwick                 | Elaine Nomura    | 01926 611964<br>emtnomura@aol.com                 |



**Issue no. 76 will be published in January 2026**

**Please may we have your contributions on local matters,  
and on the theme of “Celebration and Joy”.**

**by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**Thank you!**